

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 L-03 H-02 AGR-05 FEA-01 INT-05 PM-03

DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /102 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3118

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, EFIN, GE, UR, COMECON

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF USSR-GDR PLAN COORDI-
NATION AGREEMENT

REF: BERLIN 6088 (NOTAL)

1. SOVIET PRESS HAS GIVEN UNUSUAL ATTENTION TO GDR-SOVIET
AGREEMENT ON 1976-1980 PLAN COORDINATION SIGNED IN MOSCOW
JULY 28 BY SOVIET GOSPLAN CHIEF BAYBAKOV AND GDR STATE PLAN
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CHAIRMAN SCHUERER. IN ADDITION TO USUAL REPORTING ARTICLES,

AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF TWO EDITORIALS WITHING ONE WEEK, PRAVDA JULY 30 AND IZVESTIYA AUGUST 6. EDITORIAL STRESS THAT AGREEMENT IS A NEW STEP FORWARD, A MILESTONE, IN CEMA INTERGRATION AS PLANNED UNDER CEMA COMPLEX PROGRAM.

2. IN DESCRIBING AGREEMENT, PRESS NOTES THAT IT IS NOT ONLY INTERGOVERNMENTAL BUT ALSO "INTERDEPARTMENTAL", (MEZHDUVEDOMSTVENNIY), WHICH CAN PRESUMABLY BE INTERPRETED AS MEANING "INTER-MINISTERIAL". IN ADDITION TO FIXING TOTAL VALUE OF TWO-WAY TRADE FOR FIVE-YEAR PERIOD AS 130 BILLION VALUTA MARKS (37 BILLION DOLLARS AT 1974 RATE), AS NOTED IN BERLIN'S REFTEL, SOVIET ARTICLES ALSO STATE THAT TOTAL TRADE INCREASE FOR FIVE-YEAR PERIOD WILL BE FORTY PERCENT, OR APPROXIMATELY SEVEN PERCENT PER YEAR. EVEN MORE IMPRESSIVE IS PLANNED INCREASE IN TWO-WAY TRADE IN MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT WHICH IS SIXTY PERCENT FOR TOTAL VALUE OF 13.5 BILLION RUBLES OR APPROXIMATELY 19 BILLION DOLLARS.

3. COMMENT- THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THIS AGREEMENT IS A UNIQUE DOCUEMENT. MORE THAN JUST A TRADE AGREEMENT, IT EXTENDS INTO A NUMBER OF SECTORS OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AS WELL AS AGRICULTURE, AND ALSO COVERS EAST GERMAN PARTICIPATION IN MULTILATERAL CEMA DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN USSR. IT IS, OF COURSE, LOGICAL THAT THE SOVIETS SHOULD ATTEMPT TO INITIATE CEMA PLAN COORDINATION PROGRAM WITH RICHEST AND MOST INDUSTRIALLY ADVANCED OF ALL CEMA EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND ALSO THEIR LEADING TRADING PARTNER. TOTAL SOVIET-GDR TRADE TURN-OVER WAS SLIGHTLY MORE THAN SIX BILLION DOLLARS IN 1974.

4. TWO SOVIET ARTICLES CONTAIN INTERESTING REFERENCES TO EAST GERMAN AGREEMENT TO CONSTRUCT "SERVERAL PROJECTS FOR OIL AND OIL REFINING INDUSTRY" IN ADDITION TO GDR PARTICIPATION IN ORENBURG AND OTHER PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED CEMA PROJECTS. WE ASSUME THAT THESE ARE SPECIAL BILATERAL PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE GDR WILL RECEIVE EXTRA SHIPMENTS OF SOVIET OIL, IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCORDANCE WITH SAME FORMULA WHICH THE SOVIETS HAVE USED FOR BOTH POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
STOESSEL

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